launching a special programme for South Africa's Indian Community in an attempt to encounter the impact of the private M-Net T.V. Station; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government to counter the South African programme through All India Radio's external service or any other means.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. TEWARY): (a) The Government do not have any information in this regard.

(b) Does not arise.

Indo-Duch Project for development of mushroom

2314. SHRI HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indo-Duch project for development of mushroom is being implemented in Uttar Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka with Dutch assistance;

(b) if so, what is the progress of the above porject; and

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to carry out the above projects in the other States of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Construction work of the project has been completed in Himachal Pradesh and is being completed in the remaining states by the end of this year.

(c) No, Sir.

2315. [Transferred to the 10th August, 1989]

Modernisation of Burnpur Project

2316. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the workers and management of the Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) has signed a memorandum of agreement that paves the way for the smooth implementation of the modernisation of the Burnpur Project; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A memorandum of Understanding and Agreement between the Management of IISCO, Burnpur and representatives unions of IISCO, Burnpur has been signed on 12th July, 1989 that will facilitate the smooth implementation of the modernisation of the Burnpur Project.

The MOU provides for:

(i) Modernisation of the steel plant;

(ii) Re-employment retraining and protection of emoluments and services of workers covered by the MOU; and

(iii) A scheme to be introduced for employees making vountary separation more secure financially by providing regular monthly income.

Provident Fund fraud in ICWAI

2317. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn into the newsitem appearing in Sunday Mail dated 16th and 22nd July, 1989 under the caption "Provident Fund fraud in ICWAI costs staff dear";

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the staff has been deprived of the statutory interest rates on Provident Fund and is yet to be covered by the deposit linked insurance scheme and family pension and the institute does not take into account the dearness allowance (DA) or the additional dearness allowance in their calculation of employers' contribution to the Provident Fund;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted to the alleged support of the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner to the violation of Provident Fund rules by the Institute; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKRISHAN MALAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha separately.

AIR Darbhanga

2318. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the capacity of the transmitter of All India Radio Darbhanga station has ever been increased since it was opened;

((b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to increase the capacity of the station;

(d) whether Government proposed to start news bulletin in Maithili language from AIR Darbhanga; and

(e) if so, the details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (PROF. K. K. TIWARY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The 7th Plan does not contain any proposal to increase the capacity of the radio station at Darbhanga.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Legislation for the disabled

2319. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring out a legislation for the disabled;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce this Bill in the current session of Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDERA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) to (c) The Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Shri Baharul Islam in 1987 to suggest legislation for the welfare of handicapped submitted its report to the Government in June 1988. The Committee in its report had suggested certain constitutional amendments, reservation in employment both in the public and private sector, vocational training institutions, special provisions for mentally retarded, certain miscellaneous provisions including fiscal concessions and special pay to the teachers etc. The Committee also suggested that the legislation should provide for access facilities to be provided for the disabled in the public buildings etc.

The report of the Committee is under consideration in consultation with